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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

APPLICANTS: Graham Roderick LODGE CONFIRMATION NO.: 6336  
SERIAL NO.: 10/074,838 GROUP ART UNIT: 2161  
FILED: February 13, 2002  
TITLE: "POSTAGE METER MACHINE WITH A DATA TRANSMISSION DEVICE"

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents,  
Washington, D.C. 20231

MAY 22 2002

Technology Center 2100

S I R:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicant requests that citation and examination of the following documents be made during the course of examination of the above-referenced application for United States Letters Patent.

AA United States Patent No. 5,291,545  
AL German OS 198 18 708  
AM European Application 0 788 270

EXPLANATION OF RELEVANCE

The above references were cited in a Search Report rendered by the German Patent and Trademark Office during examination of the German application corresponding to the present United States application.

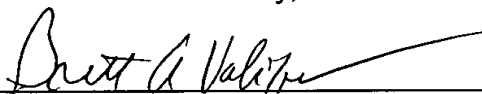
Copies of each of the above references together with Form 1449 are submitted herewith. English language Abstracts are attached to References AL and AM. Moreover, Reference AL corresponds to copending United States application Serial No. 09/294,578 filed April 20, 1999, and assigned to the same assignee, Francotyp Postalia AG & Co. KG, as the present application. That application is

pending in Group Art Unit 2166, and Applicant assumes the Examiner has access to this copending application and therefore has not burdened the present file with a duplicate copy. If the Examiner nevertheless would prefer that a copy of this copending application be provided, the Examiner is requested to notify the undersigned counsel for the Applicant, and a copy will be submitted.

As of the date of mailing of this Information Disclosure Statement, a first Office Action on the merits has not been received in connection with this application. This Information Disclosure Statement is therefore in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), and no fee is necessary.

All claims of the application are submitted to be patentable over the teachings of the above references, taken singly or in combination. Early consideration of the application is therefore respectfully requested.

Submitted by,



(Reg. 27,841)

SCHIFF, HARDIN & WAITE

**CUSTOMER NO. 26574**

Patent Department

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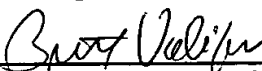
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Attorneys for Applicants.

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on May 14, 2002.



BRETT A. VALIQUET



Sheet 1 of 1

Form PTO-1449					Docket No. P01,0587		Serial No. 10/074,838	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION (use several sheets if necessary)					Applicant Graham Roderick Lodge			
					Filing Date February 13, 2002		Group Art Unit 2161	
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>								
Examiner's Initials		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If appropriate	
	AA	5,291,545	03/01/94	Stahl				
	AB							
	AC							
	AD							
	AE							
	AF							
	AG							
	AH							
	AI							
	AJ							
	AK							
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>								
		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	AL	198 18 708	04/21/98	Germany				
	AM	0 788 270	08/06/97	Europe				
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							
	AQ							
	AQ1							
	AQ2							
<b>OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>								
	AR							
	AS							
	AT							
	AU							
Examiner			Date Considered					
<b>*EXAMINER:</b> Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.								

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